

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WELLIN 00503 210029Z

72

ACTION SS-20

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 SY-10 A-01 USSS-00 SSO-00 CCO-00

RSC-01 DRC-01 /045 W

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O 210001Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7659

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE WELLINGTON 0503

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON OVIP (RUSH)

SUBJ: DEPSEC VISIT NEW ZEALAND

REF: WELLINGTON 0462

1. DEPSEC WILL BE MET ON ARRIVAL OHAKEA BY JOSEPH A. WALDING, MINISTER OVERSEAS TRADE AND ASSOCIATE MINISTER FOREIGN AFFAIRS. WALDING WILL ACCOMPANY DEPSEC OHAKEA-WELLINGTON. BIO DATA ON WALDING AVAILABLE IN DEPARTMENT. BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT FOLLOWING THUMBNAIL SKETCH WILL BE HELPFUL FOR DEPSEC BRIEFING.
2. WALDING, 48 YEARS OLD, WAS FIRST ELECTED TO PARLIAMENT IN 1967. HE HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN THE LABOUR PARTY FOR 20 YEARS, WAS A CITY COUNCILLOR AND, LATER, MAYOR OF PALMERSTON NORTH. PRIOR TO BECOMING AN MP, HE WAS HEAVILY INVOLVED IN A FAMILY OWNED BUSINESS EXPORTING GOURMET SPECIALTY ITEMS. HIS APPOINTMENT AS MINISTER OF OVERSEAS TRADE FOLLOWED NATURALLY. IN THE PAST YEAR HE HAS MADE NUMEROUS OVERSEAS TRIPS INCLUDING CHINA AND THE USSR.
3. IN HIS TRAVELS DRUMMING UP OVERSEAS MARKETS, WALDING HAS MADE GOOD USE OF HIS POSITION AS ASSOCIATE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. WE BELIEVE THAT HE IS ONE OF THE RISING STARS IN THE CABINET.

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PAGE 02 WELLIN 00503 210029Z

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NNN

Message Attributes

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